

SENATE BILL 344

By Overbey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49;  
Title 53; Title 56; Title 63 and Title 71, relative to  
nursing terminology.

WHEREAS, over the course of the past 30 years there have been changes within the nursing profession to the terminology utilized to describe nurses in advanced practice; and

WHEREAS, due to these changes, over the past 30 years, amendments to the Tennessee Code have created instances where these terms are used inconsistently; and

WHEREAS, the term “advanced practice registered nurse” is the term commonly recognized today by the nursing profession to describe nurses with advanced clinical education, knowledge, skills and scope of practice, and this term encompasses nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists and certified nurse midwives; and

WHEREAS, in order to bring clarity and uniformity to the Tennessee Code with regard to the usage of this terminology; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-2-124(c)(3) and (4), are amended by deleting the language “advanced practice nurse” and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse.”

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-10-104(c), is amended by deleting the language “nurse practitioner” and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse.”

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-11-309, is amended by deleting the language “advanced practice nurse” wherever it appears and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse.”

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 53-11-402(a)(6), is amended by deleting the language “nurse practitioner” and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse.”

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-6-802(9), is amended by deleting the language “advanced practice nurse” and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse.”

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-7-115(b), is amended by deleting the language of the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following new subsection:

(b) The board shall have the enforcement power to revoke or suspend any certificate of fitness of an advanced practice registered nurse who has been issued a certificate of fitness pursuant to § 63-1-104 or to otherwise discipline such person in accordance with this section.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-7-123, is amended by deleting the language “nurse practitioner” wherever it appears and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse,” and by deleting the language “nurse practitioners” in subsection (d) and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurses.”

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-7-126, is amended by deleting the language “advanced practice nurse” wherever it appears and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse” and by deleting the abbreviation “APN” in subsection (b) and by substituting instead the abbreviation “APRN.”

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-7-202, is amended by deleting the language “advanced practice nurse” wherever it appears and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse,” and by deleting the language “advanced practice nurses” in subsection (a) and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurses.”

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-7-207(14), is amended by deleting the language “nurse practitioner” and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse.”

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-10-505(h)(1), is amended by deleting the language of subdivision (C) in its entirety and by substituting instead the following new subdivision:

(C) The prescribing physician, physician’s assistant, registered nurse or advanced practice registered nurse;

SECTION 12. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-10-506, is amended by deleting the language “advanced practice nurse” and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse.”

SECTION 13. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 71-5-1414(d)(5)(C), is amended by deleting the language “advanced practice nurse” and by substituting instead the language “advanced practice registered nurse.”

SECTION 14. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.